

# Benjamin Bushong

Michigan State University  
Department of Economics  
486 W. Circle Drive, 110 Marshall-Adams Hall  
East Lansing, MI 48824

Email: [bbushong@msu.edu](mailto:bbushong@msu.edu)  
Homepage: <http://benbushong.com>

## Academic Positions

Associate Professor, Department of Economics at Michigan State University	2024 –
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics at Michigan State University	2017 – 2024
Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Economics at Harvard University	2014 – 2017
Visiting Scholar, NOM Unit at Harvard Business School	2014 – 2017

## Research

### Publications

- Bushong, B., and T. Gagnon-Bartsch. "Failures in Forecasting: An Experiment on Interpersonal Projection Bias." *Management Science*, forthcoming.
- Bushong, B., and T. Gagnon-Bartsch. "Reference Dependence and Attribution Bias: Evidence from Real-Effort Experiments." *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics*, 2023, 15(2):271-308.
- Gagnon-Bartsch, T., and B. Bushong. "Learning With Misattribution of Reference Dependence." *Journal of Economic Theory*, 2022, 203: 105473.
- Nadav, K. B. Bushong and J. Leveau. "It's the Economy, Stupid: Applying (Micro)economic Principles to Microbiome Science." *mSystems*, 2022, 7(1):e.
- Bushong, B., M. Rabin, and J. Schwartzstein. "A Model of Relative Thinking." *Review of Economic Studies*, 2021, 88(1):162-191.
- Hutcherson, C., B. Bushong, and A. Rangel. "A Neurocomputational Model of Altruistic Choice and Its Implications." *Neuron*, 2015, 87:451-462.
- Bushong, B., L.M. King, C. Camerer, and A. Rangel. "Pavlovian Processes in Consumer Choice: The Physical Presence of a Good Increases Willingness-to-Pay." *American Economic Review*, 2010, 100:1-18.

### Working Papers

- "Heterogeneous Tastes and Social (Mis)Learning" (with Tristan Gagnon-Bartsch), submitted.
- "Risk and Loss Attitudes Vary Across Domains", submitted.

### Works in Progress

- "Autonomy and Adherence to Expert Advice: Evidence from the Field and Lab" (with Xavier Giné, Aprajit Mahajan, and Enrique Seira)
- "Learning from Others' Learning" (with Tristan Gagnon-Bartsch)

## Education

**California Institute of Technology**, Pasadena, CA

Ph.D., Social Science (Economics), June 2013

Thesis: *Essays in Behavioral and Neuroeconomics*

(Co)advisors: Matthew Rabin and Antonio Rangel

## Teaching

**Michigan State University**

Psychology and Economics: Theory and Applications (graduate course) 2022 –

Behavioral Economics (undergraduate course) 2017 –

Data Analytics for Social Scientists (undergraduate course) 2019 –

## Grants and Awards

### Grants

Co-Principal Investigator (with Francisca Alba), “Information and Beliefs about Expected EITC Refunds”, Michigan Applied Public Policy Research Program, Administered by Michigan State University, \$30,000, 2023–2024

Co-Principal Investigator (with Xavier Gine, Aprajit Mahajan, and Enrique Seira), “Does Autonomy Improve Adherence to Expert Advice?”, World Bank, Administered by Michigan State University, \$30,000, 2023–2024

Co-Principal Investigator (with Tristan Gagnon-Bartsch), “Learning with Misattribution of Reference Dependence”, Foundations for Human Behavior Initiative, Administered by Harvard University, \$5000, 2016–2017

Principal Investigator, “Using Machine Learning to Understand Sexual Assault within the U.S. Army”, Department of Defense, Administered by the Army Analytics Group Research Facilitation Laboratory, \$325,055.38, 2014–2016

### Awards

Marylin Addy Teacher Scholar, MSU Department of Economics 2022 – 2024

Faculty Teaching Innovation Award, MSU College of Social Science 2022

Fulbright Senior Specialist 2019 – 2022

National Science Foundation IGERT Fellowship 2009 – 2013

Invited Visiting Scholar, Center for Behavioral Economics, NUS 2013

Invited Visiting Scholar, University of California, Berkeley 2010 – 2011

Russell Sage Behavioral Economics Summer Institute 2010

Shaaf Fellowship for Research in Neuroscience 2008 – 2009

Project Compassion Fellowship, Stanford University 2008

## Invited Talks

**Since 2017, alphabetical:** Auro University, Boston College, Boston University School of Management, Caltech, Chapman University, Cornell University, Econometric Society, Harvard Business School, Harvard University, Indiana University, London School of Economics, Maharaja Sayajirao University, Middlebury College, Michigan State University, Norwegian School of Economics (NHH), New York University, Purdue University, Stanford University, SITE Experimental Economics, Texas A&M University, UCSD Rady School of Management, University of Calgary, University of Michigan, University of Nottingham, University of Oregon, University of Tennessee, Veer Narmad South Gujarat University

## Professional Service

**Editorial Service:** Associate Editor, Economic Inquiry

2023 –

**Referee Service:** Science, Nature, American Economic Review, AER: Insights, Econometrica, Review of Economic Studies, Quarterly Journal of Economics, AEJ: Applied, AEJ: Microeconomics, JPE: Microeconomics, Economic Journal, European Economic Review, Games and Economic Behavior, International Economic Review, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic Psychology, Management Science, RAND Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Sage ONE, Scandinavian Journal of Economics